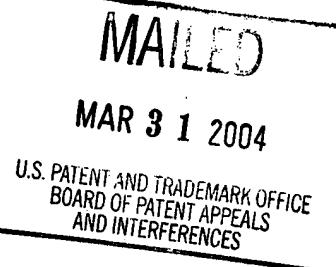


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte MASAKAZU FURUKAWA,
YASUJI HIRAMATSU and
YASUTAKA ITO



Application 09/462,067

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (BPAI) on February 18, 2004. A procedural review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

Application 09/462,067

Two Information Disclosure Statements (IDS) were filed respectfully on August 12, 2003 and November 24, 2003. (Paper Nos. 13 and 26). It is apparent from the record that the examiner has not considered the statements submitted nor notified applicants of why the submissions did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR § 1.197 and § 1.98.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner for consideration of these two IDS's and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

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